Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

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AMCONSUL MUNICH

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TAGS: BEXP EALR EEWT GW WB SUBJ: TOURISM EXCHANGE AND BOAT AND LEISURE TIME EQUIPMENT FAIRS SUCCESSFUL

REF: FY-78 CCP

SUMMARY: INTERNATIONAL TOURISM EXCHANGE FAIR (ITB) AND BOAT, SPORTS AND LEISURE TIME SHOW (BSF) RAN CONCOMITANTLY IN WEST BERLIN, MARCH 4-12. BOTH WERE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL, WELL-ATTENDED SHOWS. THE UNITED STATES PARTICIPATED AT BOTH. THE UNITED STATES TRAVEL SERVICE (USTS) ASSISTED BY USBER, MOUNTED LARGE PAVILLION AT TOURISM EXCHANGE WHERE TRAVEL TRADERS DID BOOMING BUSINESS. USBER MOUNTED BUSINESS INFORMATION OFFICE (BIO) IN HALL 11 AT BOAT, SPORTING AND LEISURE TIME SHOW. (BSF). THIRTY-FIVE TO'S WERE COLLECTED AT BSF SHOW USING STROLLING SPRECHTAG TECHNIQUE. A HIGHLIGHT OF WEEK WAS BERLIN VISIT OF CALIFORNIA TRAVEL TRADE DELEGATION LED BY SAN UNCLASSIFIED

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FRANCISCO MAYOR, GEORGE R. MOSCONE. END SUMMARY.

1. USTS PAVILLION AT WEST BERLIN'S ITB ENJOYED EXCELLENT LAY-OUT WITH DISTINCT SEPARATION BETWEEN PUBLIC AND TRADE AREA. TRAVEL FILMS ON SEVERAL REGIONS OF UNITED STATES WERE SHOWN CONTINUOUSLY IN SECTION OPEN TO GENERAL VISITORS. UNITED STATES TRAVEL TRADERS (REPRESENTATIVES OF AIRLINES,

HOTELS, AND TOUR OPERATORS) DID BOOMING BUSINESS IN ROPED OFF SECTION ACCESSIBLE ONLY TO BUSINESS VISITORS. AREA EQUIPPED WITH WESTERN STYLE LOUNGE, MINI-OFFICES AND TELEX MACHINES. TOTAL SPACE COVERED MORE THAN 1,300 SQUARE METERS.

- 2. ATTRACTIONS OF ITB PAVILLION WERE LARGE REPLICA OF STAUE OF LIBERTY AT ENTRANCE, LIVE INDIAN CHIEF IN FULL DRESS AND COWBOYS FROM EL PASO, TEXAS. TOURISM PROMOTIONAL POSTERS DISPLAYED IN GENERAL INFORMATION BOOTHS AREA WON PRIZE FOR ORIGINALITY AND DESIGN.
- 3. VIP VISITORS OPENING DAY INCLUDED WEST BERLIN'S GOVERNING MAYOR, DIETRICH STOBBE, MAYOR AND ECONOMICS SENATOR, WOLFGANG LUEDER, AND BRITISH DELEGATION LED BY U.K. COMMANDANT IN BERLIN, GENEARL RICHARDSON. GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE WAS PRESENTED WITH AUTHENTIC, HAND-MADE WESTERN HAT, A PAIR OF WESTERN COWBOY BOOTS MANUFACTURED IN EL PASO, TEXAS AND CERTICIATE NAMING HIM HONORARY CITIZEN OF EL PASO.
- 4. ONE HIGHLIGHT OF ITB ACTIVITIES WAS MARCH 4-8 VISIT
 OF 23-MEMBER CALIFORNIA NON-IOGA TRAVEL TRADE MISSION
 FROM SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES. DELEGATION WAS HEADED
 BY THE HONORABLE GEORGE R. MOSCONE, MAYOR OF CITY AND COUNTY
 OF SAN FRANCISCO. REPRESENTATIVES OF DELEGATION PAID VISIT
 TO UNITED STATES MISSION FOR BRIEFING BY MISSION OFFICER. WEST
 BERLIN SENAT GAVE LUNCHEON MARCH 7 HONORING MAYOR MOSCONE. CALIF-

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ORNIA GROUP HOSTED HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL SEATED DINNER FOR 500 TRAVEL TRADERS AND OTHER BUSINESSPERSONS AT BERLIN HILON MARCH 7.

- 5. USBER'S CONCENTRATION OF BSF SHOW AT BIO DURING WEEK YIELDED 35 TO'S IN BOAT, SPORTING AND LEISURE TIME EQUIPMENT, WITH POTENTIAL FOR MANY MORE. BSF SHOW IS MAJOR PROMOTIONAL VEHICLE FOR SUCH EQUIPMENT IN BERLIN MARKET. BSF SHOW COUNTED 125,569 VISITORS THIS YEAR; MAJORITY FROM THE TRADE. NOTEWORTHY FEATURE OF BOATING EXHIBITION WAS SUBSTANTIAL PARTICIPATION BY POLAND, WHICH PRESENTED IMPRESSIVE COLLECTION OF POLISH-MADE YACHTS.
- 6. MISSION BELIEVES BIO AT THIS SHOW WORTH EFFORT. STROLLING SPRECHTAG TECHNIQUE IS BEST APPROACH. BERLIN'S BSF, HOWEVER, IS DEFINITELY LOCAL SHOW FOR LOCAL MARKET; HENCE USBER WOULD NOT RECOMMEND MOUNTING US PAVILLION AT FUTURE SHOWS. BIO'S SHOULD CONTINU E.
- 7. MISSION BELIEVES POSSIBILITIES FOR FOREIGN BUYER PROGRAM PROMOTIONS AT USTS PAVILLION AT TOURISM EXHCCHANGE COULD BE USEFULLY EXPLORED. ALTHOUGH USTS FACING PROBLEMS OF ACCOMDATING PARTICIPANTS, PERHAPS SMALL SPACE COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR FOREIGN BUYER PROGRAM PROMOTION DESK AT 1979 ITB.

8. BERLIN FAIR AUTHORITY MADE PITCH AT TRAVEL FILM AWARD CERMONY MARCH 5 FOR ADDITIONAL AMERICAN ENTRIES IN THIS FILM COMPETITION NEXT YEAR. MISSION BELIEVES THIS COMPETITION COULD BE ANOTHER USEFUL WAY OF PROMOTING TRAVEL IN GERMAN MARKET.

9. COMMENT: OVERALL SUCCESS OF AMERICAN EFFORT AT 1978 TOURISM EXCHANGE DUE LARGELY TO EXCHANGE RATE AND BELIEF AMONG GERMANS THAT THEY THEREFORE CAN NOW AFFORD TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES. ONE WEST BERLIN PAPER SUMMED UP ATMOSPHERE WITH COMMENT QUOTE BERLINERS RUSH AT CHEAP CHARTER FLIGHTS TO UNITED STATES UNQUOTE.GEORGE

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